

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

#### **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended). An isolated polypeptide comprising a suppressor of cytokine signaling (SOCS) sequence and a membrane ~~translocation~~ translocating sequence at either a 5' or 3' end of the SOCS sequence.
2. (Currently amended). The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the isolated polypeptide is a human polypeptide comprising a suppressor of cytokine signaling 1 or 3 (SOCS1; SOCS3). ~~comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8.~~
3. (Currently amended). An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising a SOCS suppressor of cytokine signaling 1 or 3 (SOCS1; SOCS3) sequence and a membrane ~~translocation~~ translocating sequence at either a 5' or 3' end of the SOCS sequence.
4. (Currently amended). The isolated nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein the isolated nucleic acid ~~encodes the~~ a human suppressor of cytokine signaling (SOCS) amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 ~~and the~~ membrane translocating sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 2 at either 5' or 3' of the SOCS sequence.
5. (Currently amended). The isolated nucleic acid of claim 4, wherein the isolated nucleic acid comprises a SOCS nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11.
6. (Currently amended). A vector comprising an isolated mammalian nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising a suppressor of cytokine signaling 1 or 3 (SOCS1; SOCS3) sequence and a membrane translocating at either 5' or 3' of the SOCS sequence. ~~the nucleic acid of claim 3.~~

7. (Currently amended). A cell ~~containing the vector of claim 6~~ comprising a vector, the vector comprising an isolated human nucleic acid encoding a suppressor of cytokine signaling1 or 3 (SOCS1; SOCS3) sequence and a membrane translocating sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 2, producing a recombinant cell-penetrating form of SOCS1 and of SOCS3.
8. (Currently amended). The isolated polypeptide composition of claim 1, wherein the membrane ~~translocation~~ translocating sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.
9. (Original). The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide further comprises a purification sequence.
10. (Currently amended). The polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the purification sequence is a polyhistidine tag.
11. (Original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.
12. (Currently amended). A method of preventing or treating an inflammatory disease in a subject, comprising:  
administering the polypeptide of claim 1 to a subject.
13. (Currently amended). The method of claim 12, wherein the subject is a subject with an inflammatory disease ~~inflammation~~ or at risk for presenting with an inflammatory disease. ~~inflammation.~~
14. (Currently amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the severity of the inflammatory disease ~~inflammation~~ of the subject is reduced.

15. (Withdrawn-currently amended). The method of claim 14, wherein the severity of an inflammatory process ~~inflammation~~ in obesity, insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes, and metabolic syndrome is reduced.
16. (Original). The method of claim 13, wherein the inflammation is associated with an infection.
17. (Original). The method of claim 16, wherein the infection is a viral infection.
18. (Original). The method of claim 16, wherein the infection is a bacterial infection.
19. (Currently amended). The method of claim 18, wherein the bacterial infection is a ~~staphylococcus~~ Staphylococcus aureus enterotoxin B infection.
20. (Canceled).
21. (Original). The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is administered to the subject prior to or after surgery.
22. (Original). The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is administered to the subject prior to or after contact with an infectious biological weapon.
23. (Currently amended). A method of preventing or treating an inflammatory disease in a patient ~~biological system~~ comprising administering an isolated polypeptide comprising a cell penetrating suppressor of cytokine signaling 1 or 3 (CP-SOCS1; CP-SOCS3) polypeptide ~~the polypeptide of claim 1~~ to a patient ~~biological system~~.

24. (Currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein the patient biological system is presenting with an inflammatory disease ~~an inflamed biological system~~ or a biological system at risk for presenting with an inflammatory disease ~~inflammation~~.

25. (Currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein the severity of the patient with ~~inflammation of the biological system~~ an inflammatory disease is reduced.

26. (Withdrawn-currently amended). The method of claim 25, wherein the severity of inflammatory process ~~inflammation~~ in obesity, insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes, and metabolic syndrome is reduced.

27. (Original). A method of inhibiting a cytokine-induced response in a cell, comprising administering to the cell a complex comprising the polypeptide of claim 1.

28. (Original). A method of inhibiting a cytokine-induced response in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a complex comprising the polypeptide of claim 1.

29. (Withdrawn). A method comprising administering to a subject polypeptide comprising a mutated SOCS sequence, wherein the mutated SOCS sequence lacks or has a reduced suppressor of cytokine signaling function.

30. (Withdrawn-currently amended). The method of claim 29, wherein the polypeptide further comprises a membrane ~~translocation~~ translocating sequence.

31. (Withdrawn). The method of claim 30, wherein the polypeptide further comprises a purification sequence.